

09/380932 514 Report/PTO 1 0 SEP 1999

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
) D.C. 20231.
) Kichaul limme
) Richard Zimmermann
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING FILING OF NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

Box PCT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Please amend claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 15, 19, 24, 26 and 27 as follows:

In the Claims:

--3. [AMENDED] The method of claim 1 [or claim 2], wherein in step c) the

VNTR repeat sequences are removed from the 5'-flanking VNTR amplimers, and in step d) the

VNTR repeat sequences are removed from the 3'-flanking VNTR amplimers.--

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